

The existing annual Robert D. Willis project power rate of \$266,928 was confirmed and approved on a final basis by the FERC on January 28, 1997, for the period October 1, 1996, through September 30, 2000. The 1997 Robert D. Willis Current Power Repayment Study (PRS) indicates that the present rate does not meet the cost recovery criteria for the isolated project. Over the entire repayment period the current rate will underpay requirements by \$13,310,053. The 1997 Robert D. Willis Revised PRS indicates that an annual rate of \$302,928 will satisfy repayment criteria in accordance with Department of Energy Order No. RA 6120.2 and Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944. The proposed increase in revenue amounts to \$36,000 or 13.5 percent annually to begin January 1, 1998. The proposed rate of \$302,928 annually would satisfy the present repayment criteria.

Pursuant to Title 10, Part 903, Subpart A of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 903), "Procedures for Public Participation in Power and Transmission Rate Adjustments and Extensions", 50 FR 37837, the Administrator, Southwestern, published notice in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 49976), on September 24, 1997, announcing a 45-day period for public review and comment. Southwestern held informal meetings and a Public Information Forum on October 2, 1997, where Southwestern provided copies of supporting data for the 1997 Robert D. Willis PRS to interested parties. A letter was received on behalf of SRMA, indicating no opposition to the proposed rate increase. Southwestern did not receive any request to convene a formal Public Comment Forum and, as a result, did not convene such a meeting. Information regarding this rate proposal, including studies, comments and other supporting material, is available for public review and comment in the offices of the Southwestern Power Administration, One West Third Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103.

#### **Administrator's Certification**

The 1997 Revised Robert D. Willis PRS indicates that the annual power rate of \$302,928 will repay all costs of the project including amortization of additions to plant and major replacements of the generating facilities consistent with provisions of DOE Order No. RA 6120.2. In accordance with Section 1 of Delegation Order No. 0204-108, as amended November 10, 1993, 58 FR 59717, and Section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944, the Administrator has determined that the proposed Robert D. Willis power rate is consistent

with applicable law and is the lowest possible rate consistent with sound business principles.

#### **Environment**

The environmental impact of the rate increase proposal was evaluated in consideration of DOE's guidelines for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act and was determined to fall within the class of actions that are categorically excluded from the requirements of preparing either an Environmental Impact Statement or an Environmental Assessment.

#### **Order**

In view of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Secretary of Energy, I hereby confirm, approve and place in effect on an interim basis, effective January 1, 1998, the proposed annual rate of \$302,928 for the sale of power and energy from the Robert D. Willis project to the Sam Rayburn Municipal Power Agency, under Contract No. DE-PM75-85SW00117, as amended. The rate shall remain in effect on an interim basis through September 30, 2001, or until the FERC confirms and approves the rate on a final basis.

Dated: January 7, 1998.

**Elizabeth A. Moler,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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#### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-5950-2]

#### **National Drinking Water Advisory Council; Request for Nominations**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites all interested persons to suggest individuals to serve as members of a working group that will be formed to provide advice to the National Drinking Water Advisory Council on how the new Safe Drinking Water Act approach to benefits and costs should be implemented in the decision making process. The Council was established to provide practical and independent advice, consultation, and recommendations to the Agency on the activities, functions and policies related to the Act as amended. At the October 15 and 16, 1997, meeting of the Council, it was decided that a working group should be formed to provide this specific input. Following reports from the working group, the Advisory

Council will consider recommendations to forward directly to EPA.

Because membership on this group will be limited and must be representative of balanced views, selections will be made by the Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, based on drinking water expertise and demonstrated interest in drinking water policy. Any interested person or organization may suggest an individual for a position on this working group. Candidates should be identified by name, occupation, position, address and telephone number.

Persons selected for membership are responsible for any expenses that would be incurred while attending meetings. Suggestions should be submitted to Charlene E. Shaw, Designated Federal Officer, National Drinking Water Advisory Council, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (4601), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460, no later than January 28, 1998.

The Agency will not formally acknowledge or respond to nominations. E-Mail your questions to shaw.charlene@epamail.epa.gov or call 202-260-2285.

Dated: January 9, 1998.

**Elizabeth Fellows,**

*Acting Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.*

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#### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-5950-3]

#### **National Drinking Water Advisory Council; Notice of Open Meetings**

Under section 10(a)(2) of Public Law 92-423, "The Federal Advisory Committee Act," notice is hereby given that a meeting of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. S300f *et seq.*), will be held on February 2, 1998, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., in Room 1209 East Tower, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Headquarters, 401 M Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Council members will be participating by Conference Call. The meeting is open to the public, but due to past experience, seating will be limited.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide the Council with the recommendations of the Occurrence and Contaminant Selection Working Group